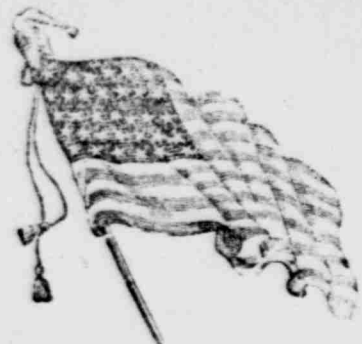


THE OCALA BANNER.



FRANK HARRIS, Editor.

The president is making a tour of the West. He will go as far as California.

Every town in Florida seems to be forging ahead. Very few, if any, are on the downward grade.

Sixty thousand hams will be shipped this year from Smithfield, Va. The south is coming to the front all along the line.

John Trice, president of the Citizen's Bank and Trust Company, of Tampa, has established a branch bank at Myers.

Phosphate mining in South Carolina is very dull, with little or no demand for rock from either domestic or foreign sources.

Mr. Hill says he is not seeking the democratic presidential nomination and will not make a stumping tour of the South and West.

The Key West Inter Ocean continues to boom. Hon. J. H. Brown for congress, regardless of any bill restricting the state.

Palatka has applied to the legislature for authority to issue \$175,000 in bonds for public improvements, \$60,000 for water works, \$35,000 for sewerage, \$30,000 for pavements.

The "gobie" is a fish peculiar to Florida. It climbs trees, feeds on land and has eyes that see in all directions. The Smithsonian institution at Washington confirms these statements.

Mr. Frank J. Milburn has submitted plans for improving the capitol building at Tallahassee. The additions will consist of two wings and a dome, and will cost between \$60,000 and \$80,000.

The sheriff of Plattsburg, N. Y., near the Canadian border, has arrested so many Chinese laborers for exportation that his salary is said to be bigger than that of the president of the United States.

The Chattahoochee & Gulf Railroad Co., formed to construct the division of the Central of Georgia system, being built in Alabama and Florida, has voted in favor of issuing \$73,400 in additional stock.

Dr. Parkhurst says he had rather live in Gomorrah than in Gotham. If the distinguished divine does not like New York he might move away. He might come south. We might recommend Gainesville as a quiet city and Gainesville might recommend Ocala.

The marriage vow is: "Until death do us part." The vow recognizes no statutory grounds for separation. So some editors who are making a good deal of noise about the recently enacted divorce law should go slow, very slow, on the subject. Chickens sometimes go home to rest.

Herman H. Kohlsaat, of the Chicago Times Herald, has placed a mortgage on its plant for three million, six hundred thousand dollars. For what that sum represents we feel that we could almost run a newsy and readable paper way down here in Florida.

Many women have been reproached for living for the sole object of entertaining. No one doubts that such an aim is petty and narrowing, but it is equally certain that it is a woman's duty to understand the art of entertaining, and this forms the subject of an attractive and useful article by Lady Jeune in the Cosmopolitan for May.

The "incurable insanity" divorce bill was one among the first introduced into the legislature, yet no individual in this state, and no newspaper, secular nor religious, said one word in opposition to it until it had passed both branches of the legislature. The noise some of them are making about it now seems to be somewhat belated and insincere.

Charles Dana Gibson and Malcolm Strauss are the two best American artists in line drawings. Gibson's "American Queen" has become famous, and Strauss' conception of her, which for May decks the front cover of the American Queen, is, in its style, quite as beautiful as the Gibson conception. It is very effective. Besides the usual short stories, well illustrated, the fancy work and the outdoor sports articles, the American Queen has this month the opinions of two celebrated New York physicians—a man and a woman—on "The Benefits to be Derived by Women From Judicious Outdoor Exercise."

A VERY GRAVE REFLECTION.

The Sumter County Times, whose editor is a member of the Florida legislature, prints the charge that "it is said" twenty thousand dollars were expended in passing the "incurable insanity" divorce bill through that august tribunal.

The editor of the Times, being on the ground, with his eyes open and his ears unstopped, would scarcely put so grave an accusation into pitiless cold type if he did not believe there was something more substantial for its foundation than the extremely thin coverlet of "they say" or "it is said."

That is the handy and very much worn phrase of the retailer of scandal and the editor of a reputable newspaper, and he a member of the body which he criticizes, with extraordinary sources for obtaining information, would hardly dignify a vague, indefinite rumor into such ugly prominence.

"No argument (of words)" says the editor of the Times (the parentheses are his) "was used to obtain votes for the bill." "Nevertheless men blindly shut their eyes to the truth and hanging their heads in shame, voted for it."

This brother legislator asks:

"Why?"

And adds regretfully:

"They will not answer!"

In the senate the vote stood 24 ayes, 8 nays. In the house, 42 ayes, 19 nays. Making a total of sixty-six for and twenty-seven against it.

Those in the senate voting for it included such names as Carson, Crill, Palmer, and Adams, and in the house Raney, Watson, Porter, L'Engle, and other names as unsullied.

We are told that the twenty-seven who voted against making the bill a law had the moral courage of their convictions and were actuated by some sort of regard for decency and virtue but the sixty-six who voted in favor of its becoming a law were lost to all decency and shame and brought obloquy, humiliation and disgrace upon the fair fame of the state and have made it a stench in the nostrils of all self-respecting men.

These are severe and suggestive epithets yet they are all employed in the article under discussion.

We cannot comprehend how a person whom a people of a county thinks is level-headed enough to represent them in the legislature can get his consent to write about his fellow-members in a strain so uncharitable.

Not for a moment do we question the sincerity of the vote of the editor of the Times against the passage of this bill, and there is no doubt but his feelings are very much wrought up on the subject, but his fierce denunciation of the votes of others who favored its enactment into law as unrighteous and unholy it seems to us partakes too much of the spirit that swelled the bosom of the pharisee into such laudatory proportions that Christ felt impelled to rebuke it as uncommendable, uncharitable, unreligious and unmanly.

The argument of "I am Better than Thou" has never carried with it much force.

The governor has signed this bill.

Is he, too, *particeps criminis* to all the sin and shame the Times raves about in making it a part of our statutory law?

Was he lured from the high pinnacle to which he was so proudly elevated by the suffrages of the people of this state by the improper use of this wicked fund?

If the governor of Florida, who signed the bill, and the members of the legislature who voted for it, did so for the sum named they were bought for a very sorry figure.

If the vague rumor put into cold type by the editor of the Times be true then the governor of Florida and the average legislator can be bought for one fourth the price paid for an ordinary field hand in the days of chattel slavery.

What would the patriot Roman who coined the expression, "O tempora, O mores!" say now if he could rise from the tomb and read this editorial in the Sumter County Times?

There are "no marriages nor giving in marriage" in heaven. That's what the bible says and we suppose it knows almost as much about it as some of the learned Florida editors.

Tribute to Southern Women.

Hon. Frank Adams delivered a memorial address at Lake City on Memorial Day, and in the course of his oration paid the following tribute to the heroines of the Confederacy:

"Oh, that I could mould my thoughts into melody and measure with which fittingly to syllable the radiant recollections that thrill the heart and stir the soul as memory holds a tryst with the recorded deeds of the women of the war; the laces and penates that shine like stars in the dome of our devotion; whose faith defeat failed to dim and whose fidelity remained unshaken in the day of disaster. How nobly did the South's young maidens resign their loves at the bugle's call, to mourn them buried beneath Virginia skies in the hero's sleep of honor, or to receive them back at last, in spite of empty sleeves, into the warmth of love's restored embrace. See them in the hospitals—these Florence Nightingales of the Confederacy—nursing the wounded soldiers of the South more tenderly than did sweet Elaine the stricken Lancelot, or than did beautiful Rebecca the exhausted Ivanhoe. See them in the home trying to play the brother's part and to be the staff of life for aged hearts to lean upon. Say Heaven bless the memory of these gentle heroines and preserve the spirit which they breathed of yore through all the years to come. Thus, while I honor the heroism of the Confederate soldier, I am constrained to emphasize with equal reverence the heroism of the Confederate woman. She is with us still, thank God, in the regal beauty of the olden time. Like the prisoner of Chillon, 'Her hair is white, but not with years.' And while I gaze upon the crown of glory which adorns her brow I am less reminded of the flight of time than of the purity of that devotion with which she laid her heart on Dixie's altar."

Sentiment vs. Statute.

We have had a law in Florida for a long time to the effect that playing cards found on any premises are prima facie evidence that the house wherein they are found is a gambling house. The law is a dead letter, because public sentiment is a stronger law than legal enactment. Now Senator Peacock, of Suwannee county, proposes, in a bill that he has introduced in the senate, to give sheriffs and their deputies the right to search houses and residences and if liquor of any quantity be found therein it shall be prima facie evidence that liquors are kept for illegal sale. The thing won't work. Juries will continue to respect the old woman's camphor bottle and the old man's private jug. You wait and see if they don't.—Lake City Index.

NO SHADOW

Of outward misfortune can darken the smile of the loyal wife and loving mother. But when disease comes the smile slowly fades, and in its place comes the drawn face and tight closed lips which tell of the constant struggle with pain.

When the delicate womanly organism is diseased the whole body suffers; the form grows thin, and the complexion dull. The first step to sound health is to cure the diseases which undermine the womanly strength.

Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription establishes regularity, dries disagreeable drains, heals inflammation and ulceration and cures female weakness. The wonderful cures of womanly diseases effected by the use of "Favorite Prescription" place it at the front of all put-up medicines specially prepared for the use of women.

"I was troubled with female weakness for eight years, and suffered more than I can tell," writes Mrs. Gust. Moser, of Ovando, Deer Lodge Co., Montana. "My disposition was affected to such an extent that to say a pleasant word to any one was almost an impossibility."

"I had two operations performed by one of the most skilled surgeons of the West, but did not get relief. Then, against my doctor's strict orders, I commenced taking Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription and 'Golden Medical Discovery,' and also followed the advice given in the Common Sense Medical Adviser."

"I continued this treatment for three months, and to-day am as healthy and well as a woman can be. I cannot thank Dr. Pierce enough for his kind letters to me."

Dr. Pierce's Pleasant Pellets cure biliousness and sick headache.

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